

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0548

October 5, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write today in response to the Amplify Energy Corp. / BETA Offshore oil spill that occurred off the coast of Huntington Beach as early as October 1, 2021. New reports provide compelling evidence that the spill could have started earlier than reported. We as Members of Congress who represent Southern California demand that your Administration immediately open a full federal investigation into the pipeline's history of violations, the causes of the spill, any failures or delays by federal officials to sufficiently respond to the spill as quickly as possible, and whether federal officials engaged in an effort to conceal these failures and delays.

New reports state that federal officials may have known of this leak at least 10 hours before it was made public. This is concerning as prompt detection of a pipeline failure is essential to minimizing impacts to the community and our local ecosystems. We also have major concerns that previous federal inspections of the Amplify Energy Corp. / BETA Offshore oil operation failed to identify incidents of negligence that possibly led to the spill. The citizens of Southern California deserve a fully transparent federal investigation that provides clear information to the public. This includes investigating the responsible party's response to this tragic spill and the role the federal government to promptly respond to protect coastal communities and wildlife.

This incident has raised several concerns that we would like to share with you, and we ask that you provide more information on whether the federal government followed its Congressionally mandated role in ensuring that Amplify Energy Corp. had up to date response plans as well as determining if Amplify Energy Corp. followed federally mandated requirements for detection and notification of oil spills. We understand from media reports that the U.S. Coast Guard is now engaged in a criminal negligence investigation regarding the spill. We demand accountability about all required safety upgrades stemming from prior incidents and transparency regarding the current status of the investigation.

Constituents who live along the shoreline are already dealing with tar balls and strong odors. We are worried about long term health effects and regional economic damage. Our economy depends on the millions of tourists who visit Southern California daily. We are encouraged by

officials already responding to protect sea life. Dead fish and birds are being reported on beaches and shorelines. We have serious concerns about the environmental impacts of the spill and applaud the workers who are doing their best to prevent the oil from hitting sensitive wetlands.

The citizens of Southern California deserve to know that operations happening offshore are safe and secure. Trust has been broken and accountability is required. We will continue to assist any way possible to help our constituents. Your Administration's accountability and transparency will help make recovery possible and hopefully prevent any future spills.

We urge you to act expeditiously to provide accountability and transparency.

Sincerely,



Michelle Steel
Member of Congress



Young Kim
Member of Congress



Ken Calvert
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa
Member of Congress